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10622 CITE [redacted]

DIST 10 MARCH 1968

COUNTRY: LAOS

DOI: 25 FEBRUARY - 1 MARCH 1968 [redacted]

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF AIR STRIKES ON ENEMY FORCES PREPARING TO ATTACK PHOU PHA THI, SITE 85, AND GROUND CONTACTS IN THE AREA

ACQ: LAOS, VIENTIANE (10 MARCH 1968) FIELD NO. [redacted]

SOURCE: [redacted]

1. ON 29 FEBRUARY AN AUTO-DEFENSE DE CHOC (ADC) COMPANY AT HOUEI KADOK (UH 6974) REPORTED ABOUT 30 PATHET LAO TROOPS IN THE VICINITY OF UH 697755. SHORTLY AFTER, GROUND FORCES MARKED THE POSITION FOR ATTACKING AIRCRAFT. AN ADC PATROL MOVED INTO THE AREA AFTER THE AIRSTRIKE AND COUNTED FOUR DEAD AND A PROBABLE EIGHT ENEMY SOLDIERS WOUNDED. ADC TROOPS RECOVERED TWO RIFLES, ONE LIGHT MACHINE GUN, ONE NOTE BOOK AND OTHER FIELD GEAR.

2. ON 29 FEBRUARY AIR STRIKES IN THE PHOU DEN DIN (UH 7661)

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AREA DAMAGED OR DESTROYED TWO BULLDOZERS AND KILLED FOUR NORTH VIETNAMESE AND FOUR MEO PATHET LAO, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE WERE BULLDOZER OPERATORS; THE PATHET LAO WERE MEMBERS OF THE MAINTENANCE CREW. WORK STOPPED ON THE ROAD ON 1 MARCH AND WAS TO BE RESUMED AFTER NEW BULLDOZERS ARRIVED. AN AERIAL OBSERVER REPORTED THAT AFTER THE 29 FEBRUARY STRIKE THERE WERE TWO SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS AT UH 802592, THE POSSIBLE LOCATION OF THE BULLDOZERS.

3. AFTER AN AMBUSH OF AN ENEMY UNIT IN WHICH THEY USED MINES AT UH 730570 TO KILL FIVE ENEMY SOLDIERS, MEMBERS OF LAO ARMED FORCES VOLUNTEER COMPANY (CV) 261 OBSERVED AN ENEMY UNIT BURNING WHAT APPEARED TO BE A STACK OF BODIES. MEMBERS OF CV 261 BELIEVED THE ENEMY DEAD WERE CASUALTIES FROM A RECENT AIR STRIKE. AT 1500 HOURS ON 29 FEBRUARY CV 261 AMBUSHED A 50-MAN ENEMY UNIT WITH MINES IN THE VICINITY OF UH 805603 AND KILLED SIX OF THE ENEMY.

4. ON 29 FEBRUARY AIR STRIKES IN THE VICINITY OF BAN HOUEI HAO (UH 7359) DESTROYED A LARGE NUMBER OF ROCKETS. (FIELD COMMENT: AN AERIAL OBSERVER DESCRIBED AIR STRIKES ON UH 733596 ON 29 FEBRUARY AS RESULTING IN HEAVY EXPLOSIONS WHICH

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LASTED FOR ABOUT 30 MINUTES AND MEDIUM EXPLOSIONS WHICH LASTED FOR ABOUT 45 MINUTES. APPARENTLY THE STRIKES WERE ON AN AMMUNITION DEPOT. A PATHET LAO DESCRIBED THE ROCKETS TO THE WIFE OF A VILLAGE CHIEF WHO WAS IN THE AREA ON 1 MARCH. FROM THEIR DESCRIPTION THE ROCKETS COULD HAVE BEEN 140MM ROUNDS.)

5. ON 25 FEBRUARY THE ENEMY CONSCRIPTED 400 VILLAGERS FROM MUONG LIET (VH 1163) TO CARRY RICE AND AMMUNITION FROM VH 0157 TO UH 8370. ON 28 FEBRUARY 20 PATHET LAO FROM VH 0371 ARRIVED AT UH 9783 AND CONSCRIPTED 40 KILOGRAMS OF RICE, ONE PIG AND EIGHT HENS FROM THE VILLAGERS, WHOM THEY THEN FORCED TO CARRY THE COMMODITIES BACK TO VH 0371.

6. AT 1200 HOURS ON 29 FEBRUARY ENEMY TROOPS AT UH 743630 FIRED FIVE 81MM MORTAR ROUNDS AT A GUERRILLA POSITION AT UH 7664. NO CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED.

7. ON 1 MARCH A COMPANY OF MEO PATHET LAO AND NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY TROOPS WAS DISPOSED AT UH 732592 AND UH 730589. A FIELD HOSPITAL WITH ONE DOCTOR WAS AT UH 737580.

8. FIELD DISSEM: STATE ARMY AIR USMACV 7TH AIR FORCE CINCPAC PACFLT PACAF ARPAC [redacted]

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